

THE ROCK ISLAND ARGUS

Department of Illinois Department
Most Outstanding Features:
Successful Commander.

Chief among accomplishments of Rock Island post No. 200, American Legion, this year was the attainment of the fourth annual convention of the Illinois department of the American Legion in Rock Island, Sept. 25 and 26. Charles W. Schick was elected commander of the state department to succeed William R. McCauley. The other officers elected by the convention were:

- Senior vice commander—William D. Knight, Rockford.
- Junior vice commander—W. J. Garardo, Toluca.
- Adjutant—William Q. Settle, Charleston.
- Chaplain—Reg. Joseph Lonergan, Dan.

National executive committee member Colonel Horatio Hackett, Chicago. There were 3,500 legionnaires registered at the convention. One of the spectacular features was the big parade, headed by the massed colors of the state posts, and was an inspiring sight to behold. The local delegates to the convention were Walter A. Rosenfield, Dr. Harry Frey, Frank Hutton, F. R. Preston. During this month the Rock Island County Vulture of Forty and Eight was formed in Rock Island. While it is too early to predict the future of the so-called "playground of the Legion," it is believed that such an organization will knit together more closely the various posts of the county.

The ladies' auxiliary to the legion held its convention in Rock Island at the same time and elected Mrs. C. J. Clothier, Rockford, state president.

The reelection of Walter A. Rosenfield commander of Rock Island post No. 200, was considered one of the greatest achievements of the local organization. Mr. Rosenfield has been successful as post leader, and in securing him to again assume the office was considered as one of the big feats of the year. Ben T. Reidy was elected senior vice commander.

At the present time there are 500 members in the local legion. Among some of the bigger things that have been accomplished by the local post are: Filed applications and followed up cases for over 250 disabled veterans; investigated 25 cases that were found worthy and extended loans to take care of immediate needs.

A fund with which to make loans was secured from the Rock Island chapter of the American Red Cross. Ex-service men to the number of 132 applied for jobs and from this number 52 were placed in reliable positions. It secured back pay for 18 men; secured back travel pay for eight; food and lodging were given at various times in the headquarters to 43 who made application.

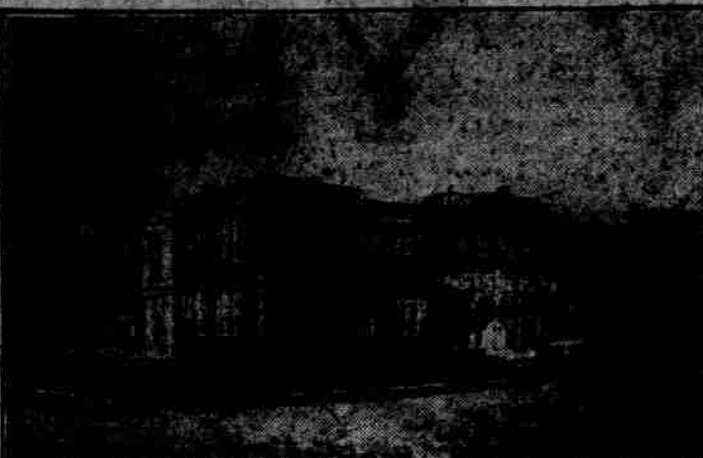
In the local post's work for the disabled veterans the active and interested cooperation of the United States veterans' bureau was secured. During the last month the legion post to a great extent has been given over to helping men fill out their service records. About 700 of these blanks have been filled out, and in addition 100 have been sent to men from this locality who are now in other communities.

Among some of the things that are expected to be accomplished by the local post during the present year is the increasing of the membership of the post from 500 to 700 members. The appointment of a special committee to plan a program for Armistice day, that it may be celebrated with appropriate ceremonies. It has been decided to encourage members of the local post to commemorate the memory of their dead comrades.

It is also being urged that the post attempt a budget system and in this way carry on its financial business in an efficient manner.

In January the entertainment

Audubon School Under Construction Will Help Solve Crowded Conditions



The Audubon school building, with ample space for more than 500 pupils, is under construction and will cost \$125,000. The corner stone of the new school, which is located on Eighteenth avenue and Twenty-seventh street, was laid with appropriate ceremonies a few weeks ago.

The building will be two stories high with 16 rooms. The school committee sponsored a carnival in the legion hall. This carnival was fairly successful and a small profit was realized.

During February the true value of the American Legion was shown, and the local post stood the test in fine shape, when Feb. 10 to 15 was set aside as "cleanup week." Representatives of the veterans' bureau were in Rock Island to locate 11 veterans who had legitimate claims against the government still standing. Twenty-five men of the local post assisted in this work, and before the campaign was over, 70 cases had been located in the city. All of these cases were eventually adjusted in a satisfactory manner.

In March a banquet was given in honor of the state officers. Among the guests were William McCauley, commander; Charles W. Schick, senior vice commander; and William Q. Settle, state adjutant. The state officers were well pleased with the enthusiasm shown by members of the local post.

The office of junior vice commander was created this month and Frank Hutton was elected to fill that position. Ben Farrar announced himself as a candidate for probate judge, which necessitated his resignation as post historian. Paul R. Preston was elected to fill the vacancy.

The American Legion posts of the tri-cities presented the musical comedy, "All Aboard," in April. The play was put on six nights, two days in each city—and a profit of \$1,000 was realized by each post. During the same month the local post sponsored a moving picture show, "The Man Without a Country." This film is owned by the department of Illinois and was shown at the Fort Armstrong theatre.

In May the woman's auxiliary earned the gratitude of the post by presenting, with appropriate ceremonies, some very handsome color. They were used at the Memorial day exercises.

In June came the big tragedy of the year. During that month the national convention of the Grotto was held in this city, and as a form of special entertainment, the local post sponsored a boxing exhibition between Charlie White and Johnny Dundee, and lost \$5,500 as a result of the venture.

Interest in the legion affairs were kept up in a variety of ways during the summer. In August the post held a banquet at the Y. M. C. A., when a mock trial was put on by the members. A baseball league was formed with teams captained by Gale Philbrook, Ben Reidy and Paul Preston. Two games were played each and the schedule ran through September.

A cup was to be donated to the winning team, but the season ended with the question as to who had won the coveted trophy. As a result of the interest shown by the members of the post in the baseball

ECONOMY PLAN REWARDED FOR COMM. MURRIN

Retirement of \$25,000 of City Water Works Bonds Follows Saving in Department.

By JOHN A. MURRIN.
Superintendent of Waterworks.
The waterworks department was kept up to a high standard of efficiency and the year was marked by entirely successful operation.

The Snow pump, of 3,000,000 gallons 24 hours capacity, had a general overhauling. New plungers were put in the water end, sleeves bored out larger and all valve seats refaced, and the pump is now in first-class condition. The Worthington centrifugal and the Holly-Caskell pumps are both in condition that they can be put in service at any time.

The brick work on the fire walls of the west battery of boilers has been rebuilt and the interior of the pumping station repainted. Our fuel expense will be high this year on account of the coal miners' strike. In the month of March we stored 1,400 tons of coal at the pumping station. This amount filled all storage space and lasted until after August. We then had to buy in the open market wherever we could and paid as high as \$9 a ton for slack, but had to purchase only five carloads when the strike ended.

The Fifth avenue sewer pump, which is under the management of this department, was run from April 11 to May 6 during high water, when the river stage raised to 17 feet above low-water mark.

At the reservoir we laid 400 feet of 18-inch sewer pipe which now connects the sewer from Sixteenth to Eighteenth avenue and does away with the former unsightly pond near Twenty-fourth street. Other extensions included 1,864 feet of 6-inch water pipe laid by special assessment, and 2,992 feet of 6-inch water pipe and 30 feet of 12-inch laid by the water department out of its own funds. There were five new fire hydrants added.

By using the strictest economy the last four years without detriment to the department, the commissioner of finance was enabled to create a sinking fund out of the surplus revenue of the waterworks by which he was able to retire \$25,000 of waterworks bonds issued in 1902 and due last February.

During the year 500 additional water meters were installed. We now have 4,200 meters in service, and new customers are being added constantly. By the use of meters we are reducing the pumpage.

The following shows the pumpage and other work entailed in furnishing the city with its water supply.

	Gallons.
Amount of raw water pumped.....	1,244,000,000
Daily average.....	3,400,000
Hours consumed in pumping.....	5,943
Daily average.....	16
Water used in washing filters.....	21,062,330
Daily average.....	57,000
Filtered water pumped to city.....	339,507,000
Daily average.....	930,000
Hours consumed in pumping to standpipe.....	2,542
Daily average.....	7
Filtered water furnished from reservoir by gravity.....	909,045,000
Daily average.....	2,500,000
Power used for pumpage.....	319,780
Daily average.....	807
Number of filters washed.....	1,475
Daily average.....	4
Alumina sulphate received.....	500,000
Alumina sulphate used for treating water.....	470,000
Daily average.....	1,360
Liquid chlorine received.....	8,000
Liquid chlorine used.....	8,573
Daily average.....	23 1/2

MATRON'S WORK SHOWS GROWTH

Steady Increase in Duties Indicated by Reports of Mrs. Anna Kirkman.

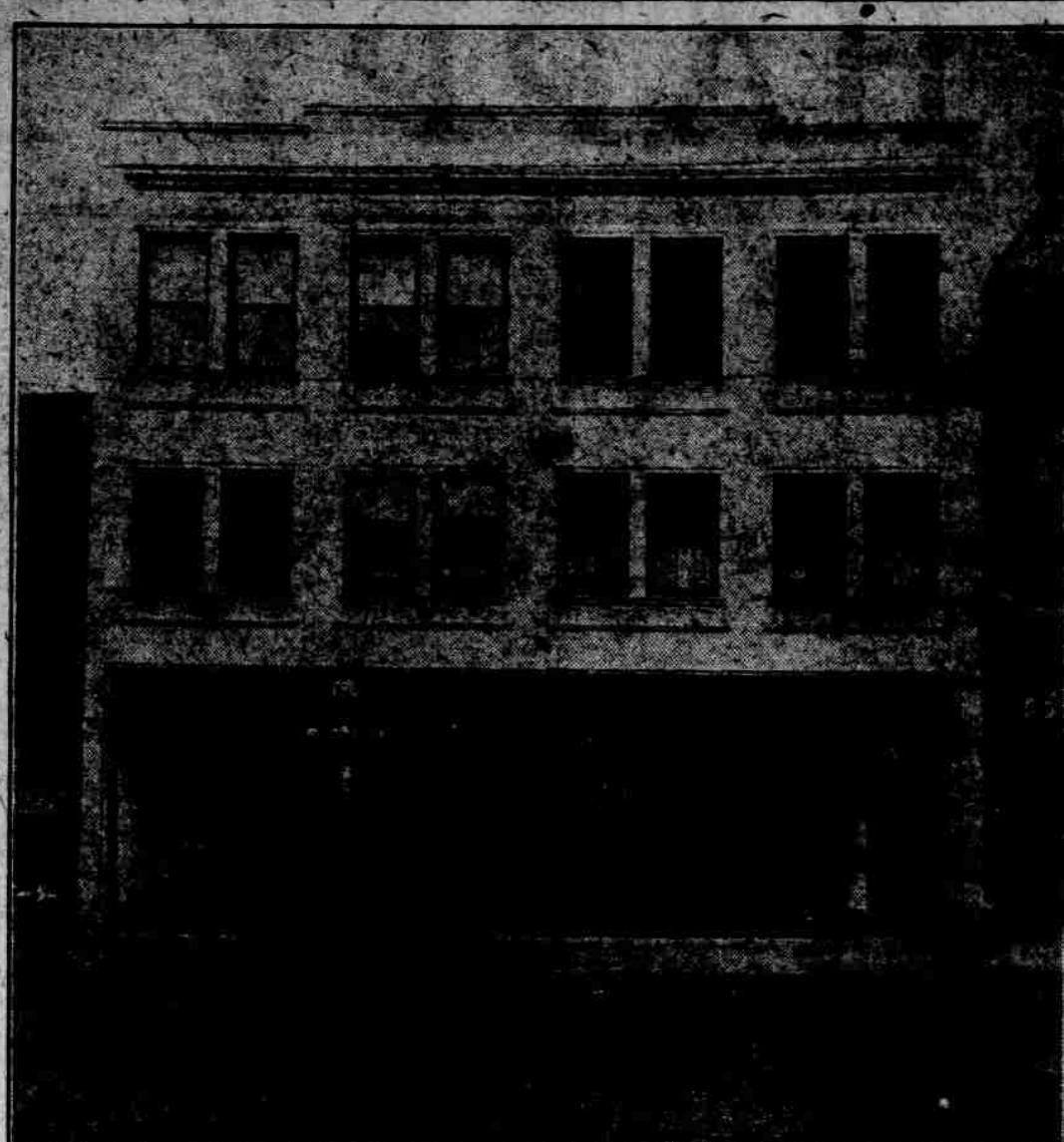
Less juvenile waywardness in the city is indicated in the annual report of the police matron, Mrs. Anna Kirkman, though her duties appear to have been more in volume than ever before.

There were only 89 prisoners in the women's department of the city jail in the past year as compared with 96 in 1921. Only eight children were declared delinquent in 1922, while in 1921 the number was 12. On the other hand the matron made 1,151 calls in the interest of the work last year though only 1,052 were made in 1921, and she received \$45 such calls last year to \$15 in 1921.

In the 1922 report of the department reports of taking severe measures with culprits is lower than in the 1921 report. The list for 1922 follows, showing the volume of work.

- Calls made in interest of the work, 1,151.
- Calls received in interest of the work, \$65.
- Neglected children looked after, 121.
- Wayward girls looked after, 70.
- Children taken into court, 40.
- Children declared delinquent, 8.
- Children placed in Bethany home, 9.
- Children placed in private homes, 10.
- Girls taken to the government clinic, 10.
- Widows pensioned, 16.
- Prisoners in women's department, 89.
- City cases, 71.
- State cases, 18.

ELI MOSENFELDER THREE-STORY STORE AND OFFICE BUILDING SECOND AVENUE IMPROVEMENT



The Eli Mosenfelder building which has been erected at a cost of \$75,000, between the Math and Benjamin buildings on the south side of Second avenue, between Seventeenth and Eighteenth streets, is one of the large structures completed on Second avenue the latter part of the year. Three stories high and with a frontage of 50 feet on Second avenue, it extends almost to the alley between Second and Third avenue.

MORE VEHICLE TRAFFIC OVER RIVER BRIDGE

Pedestrian Traffic is Decreased More Than 200,000; No Serious Accidents.

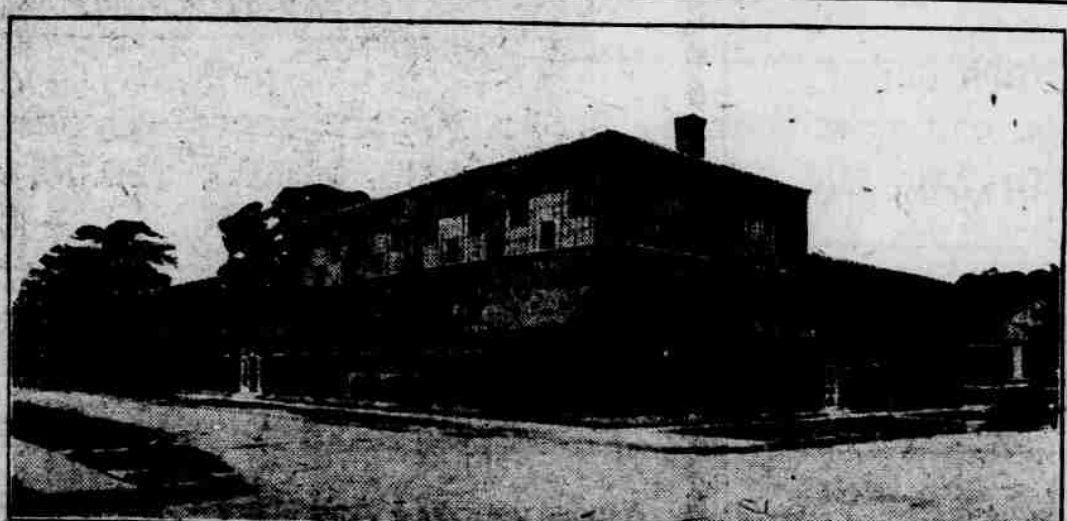
Vehicle and street car traffic over the Rock Island bridge this year increased, but the pedestrian traffic, unlike last year, when it took a large jump, was greatly decreased in 1922. This year 4,121,531 vehicles crossed the bridge in comparison to 3,748,530 in 1921.

The increase in the street car traffic and the decrease in the pedestrian traffic this year is believed to be due to the fact that working conditions have been improved and more people were able to afford car fare to Rock Island and Davenport. The changing of the street car rates encouraged more riding and less walking. The pedestrian traffic was decreased from 935,156 in 1921 to 701,078 in 1922—a drop of more than 200,000. The number of street cars which crossed the bridge this year, both Bridge line and arsenal, was 132,952. Last year there were only 120,042.

The decrease in the traffic on the railroad over the bridge was small. The number of passenger and freight trains passing over in 1921 was 31,422 and this year 31,147. The number of cars on the trains decreased from 557,996 in 1921 to 540,293 in 1922. The drop in the rail traffic this year it attributed to the strike which reduced rail activities.

Boat Traffic Small.
Steam boat traffic this year decreased a third over that of last year. Only 578 steamboats passed through the draw in 1922, while 1,592 passed through in 1921. This was an exceedingly large drop, due to the lessening of commercial activities on the river. The only boats passing through this year were a few excursion boats and United States engineering boats. The number of barges decreased from 788 to 571, this year.

MODERN PLANT FURNISHES 100 TONS OF ICE AND 4,000 GALLONS OF ICE CREAM EACH DAY



The Sturtevant-Baker company's artificial ice and ice cream plant, Sixteenth street and Fifth avenue, represents an investment of \$200,000 in land, building and equipment. It is erected on the site of the old skating rink and fronting Sixteenth street covers a ground plot of 212x100 feet. It is a brick structure, two stories in height.

CITY EMPLOYEES COOPERATE FOR ITS PROTECTION

Achievements of Health and Safety Department Enumerated by W. M. Fitzsimmons.

Direction of the department of public health and safety is vested in William H. Fitzsimmons, commissioner. It is the largest department and its work the most diversified in the administration, including, as it does, the police, fire and health departments, each of which has its own set of activities and officers. In addition, Mr. Fitzsimmons has assumed, since the suspension of Thomas Con. Sept. 25 by the board of police and fire commissioners, the duties of chief of police. In reviewing the activities of the year, the commissioner says:

"In all three departments I have enjoyed the finest kind of cooperation by the men with the program of work I had prepared, and I wish to make the keynote of this annual statement, commendation of my co-workers for their untiring activities in furthering the public health and safety of Rock Island.

"Handicapped by having only \$50,000 with which to run the department this year, whereas the salaries alone amount to \$50,000, I have found it necessary to economize in every way possible. Out of this \$10,000 for incidentals, however, coal for the winter's use in all six fire houses was purchased, all of the equipment has been kept in serviceable condition, and a roadster has been purchased for Chief August Schmidt for \$750, to replace the car he formerly used.

"The aerial truck has been equipped with a ladder pipe and life net, and in place of them as of the other equipment of the department were trained in two-hour daily periods of schooling at the central station last summer. I have insisted upon neatness and cleanliness of all the department property, and some of the fire houses have been developed to a high point of artistic beauty through personal pride of the men themselves. I believe we have given good service this year, as there is no case on record of more than two or three minutes having been consumed by companies in getting to the scene of a fire after an alarm has been turned in. This is partly due to the improved box recording system installed at large expense, whereby recording devices made by the Harrington-Seaburg company have replaced the old-fashioned numerical receivers formerly in use for some years.

New Milk Law.
"Vigilance on the milk supply of Rock Island has been one of the chief works of the health department during the year, as is shown by the reports of H. H. Harris, health officer, and L. K. Ehl, inspector. In addition a new and more rigid set of requirements for milk producers and dealers was incorporated into a new milk ordinance this fall, and within a short time practically the entire supply of milk here will be properly pasteurized. The department is somewhat proud of its improvement of the grounds about the detention hospital on the river bank at the west end of the city. A park site has been made there by the removal of squatters' shanties which was long a menace to the peace of the city. There has been also a great deal of sanitary plumbing in the year, especially aimed at going away with the insanitary outdoor vaults, and in this Plumbing Inspector Frank L. Yerbury has taken an active hand with the health department.

"Garbage hauling was unusually heavy last summer, as can be seen by the department report. The teamsters and incinerator worked overtime. The city incinerator plant has given wonderful service, and now during the slack season when only two wagons are maintained in the downtown district, the plant is being put in good shape for the coming season. This department also saw to the improvement of the city barn during the summer, until that place is a model of cleanliness and comfort for housing of horses.

FRANCE FIGHTING DETERIORATION OF ITS NOTED WINES

Paris.—Preventing wholesale and retail wine dealers from watering their wine is one of the new problems of the internal revenue department of the French government.

Every drop of water introduced into wine means just so much less revenue to the government. Also, it is argued by the department of agriculture that the consumer of wine has a right to a pure product, if he wants it, and should be protected. Furthermore, the consumer is apt to put some water in the wine after he gets it home, if only for economy's sake, and it is evident that if he is sold diluted wine in the first place, the government will be defrauded just so much more.

Before the war, when wine was very cheap in France, dilution was unheard of. But during the last year, out of 10,472 samples of wine taken from suspected dealers, 4,326 samples were found to have been watered heavily, and 2,070 convictions for fraud were obtained.

In order to protect the good name of French champagnes, there have been many arrests recently for misrepresenting sparkling wines as champagnes. Any real champagne is always labelled with that word on the bottle, it is explained, and the purchaser can protect himself when he orders champagne by looking for the word "champagne" both on the bottle and on the cork.

ABOLISH SALOONS

"During the year the entire interior of the police station was redecorated, the garage was repainted within and the jail cells were kept sanitary by frequent fumigation or disinfection and other care. I feel that I entered the active control of the department at a difficult time, but I enjoyed the work from the start. My ideal has been to do away with the saloons which masquerade as soft drink parlors, as I realize that a very few call exist if not permitted to sell liquor. Every week sees this nearer fulfillment as saloons find it necessary to suspend business. The officers of the department have been more like comrades than employees to me, and their obedience and spirit has been very gratifying. I deplore the three deaths in the department in the last three months, and also the illness which has absented two of the men from duty in two weeks. Among the minor accomplishments of the department during the year is the institution of safety zones at busy corners downtown to protect passengers getting on or alighting from street cars."

DISTRIBUTION EFFICIENCY INCREASED BY WAREHOUSE ADJACENT TO RIVER AND RAILS



The Rock Island Transfer & Storage company's new 4-story building on the southeast corner of First avenue and Seventeenth street, has been erected at a cost of approximately \$100,000. The structure, which is of brick, was originally intended to be three stories, but has been so constructed that two more floors may be added. The building has a 77-foot front on First avenue and runs parallel to the alley on Seventeenth

street. At a future date the building will be enlarged so that it will reach the Seventeenth street alley and run east on First avenue to the Lamont coal office. There is a railroad siding at the rear and on the side.

The fourth floor is used for storage of household goods. The remainder of the building for general storage. Modern appliances are installed in the warehouses are rooms for household goods, rugs, trucks, crating, packing, and a room where the pianos are stored. The sprinkler system has been installed in the building.

The new warehouse has been not only a marked addition to the commercial construction work of the year but established Rock Island as a key-city for tri-city distribution and marks the first step toward establishment of this city as a distributing center for this territory.

The ice storage room is 66x69 feet, lined with cork. Back of the main engine room is a tank room. A well is sunk in the middle of the building to insure a water supply at all times. Aging tanks are placed in the second-story room, which are used for the storage of cream and tubs of butter. The building is up-to-date in every way. The plant has a capacity of 100 tons of ice and 4,000 gallons of ice cream daily.

To the rear of the offices are the cutting and freezing rooms. Hardening rooms are also in this part of the building, and still further to the rear the engine room and the elevator are located. Adjoining the engine room is an auxiliary room, on the roof of which a 100-barrel water supply tank is erected. Water for the plant comes from a deep artesian well and is said to be the best artesian water in this community.